

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T STATE 158060

EXDIS FOR AMB. YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT KINSHASA 6470 SENT ACTION SECSTATE JUN 21.

QUOTE: S E C R E T KINSHASA 6470

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, CG, AO, SOPN, PEPR

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH MOBUTU ABOUT ANGOLA TALKS, SECRETARY'S
SPEECH, AND PUBLICITY GIVEN WESTERN DEMARCHES

REF: A) STATE 157339; B) KINSHASA 6458; C) STATE 156359;
D) KINSHASA 6072

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT STATE REFTELS, I TELEPHONED MOBUTU MORNING
JUNE 21 TO ALERT HIM TO IMPENDING TALKS IN LUANDA INVOLVING US REPS
AND
TO GIVE GIST OF MATTERS THAT WOULD BE DISCUSSED. MOBUTU SAID
HE HAD LEARNED THIS ALREADY FROM FOREIGN (UNSPECIFIED) RADIO BROAD-
CASTS. I SAID I HOPED TALKS WOULD PROVE HELPFUL TO ZAIRE FROM
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STANDPOINT OF EASING THE THREAT TO ZAIRE'S SECURITY FROM ACROSS
THE ANGOLAN BORDER.

2. I ALSO MENTIONED SECRETARY VANCE'S JUNE 20 SPEECH ON AFRICA.
MOBUTU SAID HE HAD ALSO HEARD ABOUT THAT, NOTING WITH EVIDENT
DISPLEASURE THE SECRETARY'S REFERENCES TO ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL
REFORMS AS NECESSARY FOR CONTINUED US ASSISTANCE. I REPLIED

I WAS SURE THE PRESIDENT WOULD VIEW THE SPEECH AS CONSTRUCTIVE,
WHEN HE READ THE ENTIRE TEXT, WHICH I SAID I WOULD SEND TO HIM.

3. MOBUT THEN AGAIN COMPLAINED ABOUT ALL THE PUBLICITY BEING
GIVEN TO THE WESTERN DEMARCHES, PLACING CONDITIONS ON ASSISTANCE,
ETC. HE REFERED AGAIN TO THE VOICE OF GERMANY REPORT HE
HAD MENTIONED TO ME THE DAY BEFORE, SAYING THAT HE HAD DIS-
COVERED IT HAD ORIGINATED WITH REUTERS IN KINSHASA AND IMPLY-
ING THAT THE BRITISH EMBASSY HERE WAS RESPONSIBLE. I
AGAIN EXPRESSED MY REGRET THAT THERE WAS SO MUCH PUBLIC TALK
CONCERNING WHAT HAD BEEN INTENDED AS CONFIDENTIAL DIPLOMATIC
EXCHANGES, AND ASSURED MOBUTU THAT THE US HAD MADE EVERY EFFORT
TO HANDLE THE MATTER DISCREETLY. I ALSO REMINDED MOBUTU THAT
THE SOURCES TO WHICH THE PRESS SOMETIMES ATTRIBUTED ITS INFORMA-
TION WERE NOT ALWAYS THE REAL OR ONLY ONES.

4. COMMENT: MOBUTU, HAVING ONLY RECENTLY PUBLICLY DECLARED HE
WOULD VIEW ANY CONDITIONS PLACED ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AS UNACCEP-
TABLE INTERFERENCE IN ZAIRE'S SOVEREIGN AFFAIRS, IS OBVIOUSLY IN AN
UNHAPPY MOOD. HIS SPEECH SCHEDULED TODAY AT THE MPR SEMINAR FOR
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS -- BILLED BY THE PRESS AS A MAJOR
POLICY ADDRESS -- MAY PROVIDE A BETTER VIEW OF HOW MOBUTU INTENDS
TO REACT.

CUTLER

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

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